

Welcome to Worship at St. Matthew's

January 30, 2022



Welcome to St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, each and every one of you, a chosen and beloved child of God. "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1): sky, waters, ground; sun, moon, stars; plants, animals, people. Then God rested. So, welcome to this time for rest and worship.

Holy Communion: All are welcome to come forward at the time of communion to receive God's gift of grace at the

11:00 service. Let an usher know if you'd like to have communion brought to you because of mobility challenges.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held today, Jan. 30, from 9:45-10:45 a.m. It will be a hybrid meeting, both online and in person. Please plan to attend. Link to the Zoom meeting using the QR code here.



LINK TO ZOOM

2021 ANNUAL REPORTS are available for pick-up today at the Welcome Center and across from the church office. Read the report online at this link:

<https://bit.ly/3tXHWwj>

At the annual meeting, there will be the nomination and election of four new council members: **Fred Heim, Carl Johnson, Allan Land, and Michael Wolaver. Pam Stokke-Ceci** will be up for reelection to provide continuity to the council vision during this time of transition. We thank these people for their willingness to give of their time and skills to help to lead our congregation during this pivotal time.

Sunday School: We plan to resume next Sunday, February 6th. We're excited to be resuming this opportunity for children ages 3 through 8th grade.

Altar Flower & Library Book Sign-Up: You are invited to sign up for altar flowers or a library book for a special occasion which will be noted in the bulletin. Flowers are \$35 and will be ordered by the office staff. Please make out a check and mark it for altar flowers. You can sign up to donate a book to the library. A book will be chosen for the occasion and you will be notified of which book was chosen. Library books are \$20. This is a great way to support St. Matthew's worship and library ministries in a meaningful way. The Sign-up Book is outside the Upper Room, in a binder on the table.

Bulletin Announcement Insert – January 30, 2022

Communion Class for 2nd Graders on February 13th Each year we have a special communion celebration for 2nd graders that begins with a class about the significance of the sacrament of communion. This year's class, taught by Pastor Ann and Gretchen Hauge, will be on Sunday, February 13th at 9:45. The class is for the 2nd graders *and parents*, and it is open to children who missed the class in previous years and would like to participate this year. Kids will also design and paint a communion glass that they will use to celebrate communion with their families at worship services throughout the spring. (Families will sign up for a service). If you would like more information, please contact Gretchen Hauge.

First Fridays Book Discussion Group

Discussions begin at 7 p.m. on the dates listed. For now, the meetings will continue through the use of Zoom. Those on the email list will receive a Zoom link for participation. All are welcome.

Feb. 4, 2022 Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison (581 pages)

Mar. 4, 2022 The Water Keeper by Charles Martin (352 pages)

April 1, 2022 Black Bottom Saints by Alice Randall (368 pages)

Looking Ahead to Adult Education in February:

- **Feb. 6: Dan Bice “Forgotten, Misrepresented, and Marginalized Figures of Early Christianity (Part One)”** This one will be about John the Baptist; future topics in this intermittent series: James, Mary Magdalene, Mary, mother of Jesus
- **Feb. 13: The Music of St. Matthew’s from 1921–Today** - with John Paradowski
Enjoy a path down the musical journey of St. Matthew’s.
- **Feb. 20: Our Global Partnerships** – Learn about our partnerships with the Meru Diocese congregation of Sing’isi Lutheran Church in Tanzania and with Pan de Vida Lutheran Church in El Salvador
- **Feb. 27: Planning a Good Funeral** with Pastor Karen Natterstad; we’ll discuss what might be involved in leaving your loved ones some of your wishes for your ‘celebration of life.’

When do the youth choirs start?

Praise Kids begins February 10, meeting on Thursdays from 4:00-4:45pm

For children in grades 4K through second grade

New Creation Choir begins February 9, meeting on Wednesdays from 7-7:45pm

For children in grades 3-6

New Generation Choir begins February 2, meeting on Wed. from 6:15-6:45pm

For youth in grades 7-12

Contact John Paradowski or Jeff Reeves for further information about these groups.

Your child is welcome!

2022 Youth Mission Trip Planned for Kenosha!

Last year's mission trip experience was an eye-opening look at the City of Milwaukee with participants seeing the need that exists just blocks away from where we live. This summer, we will be going a little farther from home, heading south to Kenosha, where we will serve with agencies addressing food insecurity, poverty, and inequity. The trip will take place the week of June 19th, and it will be a "full" trip where we will actually stay in the city of Kenosha. It is open to kids who are currently in 9th -12th grades. The deadline for signing up is January 31st. If you are interested in being part of this experience or if you have any questions, please contact Gretchen Haugse (ghaugse@me.com, 262-488-4040).

Wednesday Bible Study with Pastor Ann Williams meets from 10:00-11:00 a.m. each Wednesday. Anyone is welcome to join in at any time.

Call Committee Update: Progress toward a New Lead Pastor The Synod Staff is providing names of potential candidates, and interviews have begun. Please keep the Call Committee in your prayers as they work confidentially in interviews and discussion. *Members of the Call Committee: Nancy Bowen, Andrew Cherney, Diane DuBois, Brian Due, Natalie Ford Sajdak, Michael Wolaver.*

A New Collection Now Begun for Allies for Teens in Foster Care

- Christmas wrapping paper
- New & almost new gift bags
- Hand-knit scarves

These items will be used for next Christmas's gifts for teens in foster care. There is a collection box outside the church office. What a great opportunity to divest yourself of that wrapping paper and those gift bags you keep every year and aren't going to use! Thank you for continuing to support this wonderful organization.

Employment Opportunity at St. Matthew's:

Church Administrator: (*newly created position*) Full-time, salary commensurate with experience. Responsible for facilities management, human resources, financial, stewardship and overall operations of the church and its staff. Administrator must pay strong attention to details and manage simultaneous projects. Minimum requirements: Bachelor's degree in business or related field, or equivalent experience is preferred, and five or more years in program management and or leadership experience, preferably in non-profit or church environments. Resumés should be submitted to Pastor Karen Natterstad at prkaren@gmail.com by January 31, 2022. Questions or requests for the position description may be directed to Pastor Karen at 414.774.0441.

Tanzania Partners Bishop Elias Kitoi and his wife Ellie are celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary in February. The Meru Partnership committee in our synod is collecting greetings for them. If you wish to send them an email greeting or a card, these can be collected in our church office, and we will forward them to Tanzania. Email greetings: office@stmattslutheran.org

What should I consider when attending worship, to be considerate of others?

- 1) **If you are a little bit sick**--maybe with a cold, or you're not sure what it is--**please stay home!** This is the best way to care for those around you and be a responsible citizen in our community.
- 2) Not vaccinated? **Please strongly consider taking one of the vaccines**, for yourself, and for the future of mitigating the effects of this virus. Vaccines are proving to be effective against the variants, and especially against severe illness requiring hospitalization.
- 3) Still not sure it's safe? **Remember our Livestream** of Sunday Services at this link: **bit.ly/StMattsLive** (at the time of the services)

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Remember to check our website for:

- This week's bulletin announcements
- The latest issue of the Voice newsletter
- The church calendar
- The Sunday worship bulletin
- Prayer Request form for immediate needs
- Link to membership directory

www.stmattslutheran.org

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Pastoral Staff: Karen Natterstad, Interim Lead; Ann Williams, Associate Pastor; and Sheila Rawn, Interim Associate Pastor.

Volunteer Ministries/Small Groups/Adult Education: Sue Swing

Youth Ministries & Children's Education: Gretchen Haugse

Children's Minister: Donna Gardner Manke.

Music Minister: John Paradowski.

Music Staff: David Mohr, Jeff Reeves, Amy Dankwardt, Heide Hughes

Older Adults Coordinator: Julia Murphy.

Technology Coordinator: Brian Smith.

Library Coordinator (volunteer) Linda Wunderlich.

Custodial Staff: Marsha Olson, Dave Fagerberg, Bob Gardner.

Office Staff: Al Van Lith, Bridget Smith, Sonja Mohr